

**In the specification:**

Please delete the last paragraph on page 23 and replace as follows:

*Animals.* F344USA, F344JAP and F344GER substrains were obtained from the different countries via Charles River Germany. F344Han rats, initially derived from the F344USA substrain, were obtained from a breeding colony at the Central Animal Laboratory at Hannover Medical School (~~for further information, see: <http://www.mh-hannover.de/institut/tierlabor/f344.htm>~~). All substrains were bred for one generation at the Central Animal Laboratory at Hannover and maintained in a specific-pathogen-free facility at 25°C under a 12h light-12h dark cycle (light on at 0700 h), with ad libitum access to food and water. For the experiments age-matched weeks old F1 offspring of all substrains was used. The District Government, Hannover, Germany, approved all research and animal care procedures.

Please delete the last paragraph on page 25 and replace as follows:

*Animals.* Male WistarF/Han (WF) rats (Central Animal Laboratory, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany, ~~see <http://www.mh-hannover.de/institut/tierlabor/wf.htm> for details~~), weighing 350-390g, were housed in a sound-proof, temperature controlled (24.0±0.5°C) room under specific pathogen free conditions with a 12/12h dark/light cycle (lights on at 07.00 with illumination level of 80 Lux). Food (Altromin lab chow pellets) and tap water were available *ad libitum*. Under ketamine/xylasine (100/5 mg/kg, i.p.) anesthesia, the rats were fixed in a Kopf stereotaxic frame and implanted with cannulae (Plastic One, Inc., Roanoke, VA, USA) above the lateral ventricle. All research and animal care procedures were approved by the Lower Saxony district government (Hannover, Germany) and followed principles described in the European Community's Council Directive of 24 November 1986 (86/609/EEC).

Please delete the 3<sup>rd</sup> paragraph on page 28 and replace as follows:

*Animals.* Male WistarF/Han (WF) rats (Central Animal Laboratory, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany, see ~~<http://www.mh-hannover.de/institut/tierlabor/wf.htm>~~ for details), weighing 330-370g, were housed in a sound-proof, temperature controlled ( $24.0 \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) room under specific pathogen free conditions with a 12/12h dark/light cycle (lights on at 07.00 with illumination level of 80 Lux). Food (Altromin lab chow pellets) and tap water were available *ad libitum*. Under ketamine/xylazine (100/5 mg/kg, i.p.) anesthesia, the rats were fixed in a Kopf stereotaxic frame and implanted with cannulae (Plastic One, Inc., Roanoke, VA, USA) above the lateral ventricle. All research and animal care procedures were approved by the Lower Saxony district government (Hannover, Germany) and followed principles described in the European Community's Council Directive of 24 November 1986 (86/609/EEC).

Please delete the 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph on page 31 and replace as follows:

*Animals.* Male WistarF/Han (WF) rats (Central Animal Laboratory, Hannover Medical School, Hannover, Germany, see ~~<http://www.mh-hannover.de/institut/tierlabor/wf.htm>~~ for details), weighing  $330 \pm 31$  g $\pm$ SD, were housed in a sound-proof, temperature controlled ( $24.0 \pm 0.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) room under specific pathogen free conditions with a 12/12h dark/light cycle (lights on at 07.00 with illumination level of 80 Lux). Food (Altromin lab chow pellets) and tap water were available *ad libitum*. Under ketamine/xylazine (100/5 mg/kg, i.p.) anesthesia, the rats were fixed in a Kopf stereotaxic frame and implanted with cannulae (Plastic One, Inc., Roanoke, VA, USA) above the lateral ventricle. All research and animal care procedures were approved by the Lower Saxony district government (Hannover, Germany) and followed principles described in the European Community's Council Directive of 24 November 1986 (86/609/EEC).